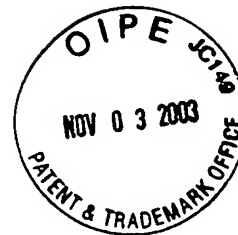


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's rejection of claim 18, "said positive power supply rail" and "said negative power supply rail" have been changed to "a positive power supply rail" and "a negative power supply rail," respectively, which change is believed to overcome the antecedent basis problem for these recitations. Also, in response to the double-patenting rejections, a terminal disclaimer has been submitted herewith.

The Examiner indicated that should claim 23 be found allowable, claim 25 will be objected to as being a substantial duplicate thereof. This objection is not understood, as both claims 23 and 25 depend on claim 21, claim 23 adding the limitation that said first n-doped region is electrically coupled to said second n-doped region, whereas claim 25 includes not only the limitation of claim 23 but the further limitation that the first p-doped region is electrically coupled to said second p-doped region. Consequently, claim 23 adds a single limitation to claim 21, whereas claim 25 adds two limitations to claim 21, even though one of those two is the same as in claim 23, the second limitation in claim 25 causes that claim to not be a substantial duplicate of claim 23. In that regard, claim 25 is not merely a slight difference in wording from claim 23 but does include a further additional limitation. Accordingly, reconsideration of this potential objection is requested.



CONCLUSION

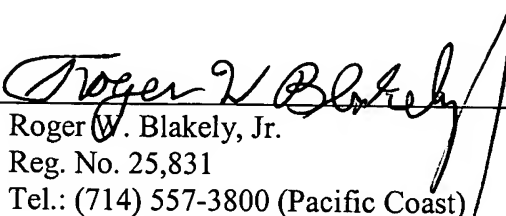
Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 10/31/2003

By


Roger W. Blakely, Jr.
Reg. No. 25,831
Tel.: (714) 557-3800 (Pacific Coast)

Attachments

12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8A)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

MAILING

☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service
as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 10/31/2003

FACSIMILE

☐ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and
Trademark Office.


Jessica A. Clark
Date

RECEIVED
NOV 13 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2003
10/31/2003